HARPER, OBAMA MEET IN WASHINGTON, PG 4

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Ignatieff: PM made no progress on Buy America

U.S. VISIT Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff criticized Stephen Harper's visit to Washington, D.C., yesterday, saying the prime minister has failed to make progress on the contentious Buy America procurement policies.

U.S. President Barack Obama has acknowledged that protectionist measures in the U.S. are hurting Canadian and American businesses and workers but stresses that, overall, Canada-U.S. trade is still flowing well. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 4

News on the Move

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Celebrity Buzz pg 21

Jude's good, bad news

On the web

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Bike rack **Animated inspiration**

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Local artist Howie Tsui poses with the public-art bike-rack panel he designed for the city. Tsui's panel is based on the National Film Board animated short Log Driver's Waltz and can be seen along with 29 other designs on Bank Street between Laurier and Somerset avenues. Story, page 3.

Committee OK's SmartBus

Transit proposal heads to city council as lawsuit fears arise

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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A vote altered to alleviate paralyzing confusion allowed the city's transit committee to green light a $17-million SmartBus suite that would include next-stop announcements and a real-time predictive arrival system.

Initially, three of the five councillors present voted against allowing OC Transpo to redistribute $4.6 million from other projects in order to meet the project's price tag, despite approving $12.4 million already in the budget for such things.

The decision left the committee to decide on recommending whether to implement fewer SmartBus features, to equip fewer buses with the full suite or to cancel the process outright.

That debate was averted when Coun. Christine Leadman changed her vote to allow the proposal to rise to city council next week.

Council could still veto the proposal, as Innes Ward Coun. Rainer Bloess had suggested, but deputy city solicitor Carey Thomson warned the committee that cancelling the process could put the city in a position to be sued by preferred supplier Clever Devices.

There is even a possibility the city could be sued by current smart-bus technology provider Bell Canada, but Thomson said there has been no indication Bell would do so.

The committee briefly went into a closed private session to get more details on the legal matters.

Bloess said he was not comfortable with the tendering process for this contract and wanted to restart it to ensure that the city was getting a better value. His motion was defeated 3-2.

Rideau-Rockcliffe Coun. Jacques Legendre said council should move forward, saying it was a good price and that he was concerned about having to fight yet another lawsuit.

"I'm now more concerned that if we decide to start over, the winning bidder would now have a very good case for a suit, but that's my assessment and I'm not a lawyer," he said.

Teenagers smoking contraband, study says

TRACEY TONG
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TOBACCO Nearly one-quarter of the cigarettes smoked by Ottawa teens are contraband, says a new study released yesterday.

Commissioned by the National Coalition Against Contraband Tobacco, the study found that 23 per cent of cigarette butts collected from around 11 high schools in Ottawa by a research company were from illegal cigarettes.

Contraband cigarettes are being smuggled into Canada and sold across the country, but due to geography, the problem is particularly prevalent in Ontario and Quebec, said coalition spokesman and retired Toronto police superintendent Gary Grant.

Gary Grant

"And it's a problem that's not going away," said Grant, who spoke in Ottawa yesterday.

Organized criminals "sell them from their garages and out of the backs of cars and trucks near schools and public playgrounds," said Grant.

Because they're cheap and easy to find, youth are a natural target, he said.

"We have to make people aware of this problem," Grant said. "Even if they aren't smokers themselves, they may be unaware that their children are smoking cigarettes that they bought from criminals."

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Local

Cyclist killed by Gatineau bus

A female cyclist was killed following a collision involving a Gatineau bus yesterday afternoon. The collision, which occurred just before 5 p.m. on Sussex Drive between King Edward Avenue and Boteler Street, involved a Société de transport de l'Outaouais bus. As of last night, police have not confirmed the identity of the female victim. The incident is the latest in a string of collisions involving cyclists this summer, including five cyclists who were seriously injured after being struck on March Road in July. METRO OTTAWA

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News in brief

CRIME Police are seeking a male suspect after a Barrhaven drugstore was robbed Tuesday night. At 9:10 p.m., a man entered a Strandherd-area Shoppers Drug Mart and asked for narcotic medication. Items were taken and the man left on foot. Police are seeking a black male, 20 to 24 years old, six-feet, four inches tall, with a skinny build, clean-shaven face and frizzy black hair worn over his forehead. He was wearing a black baseball cap, black T-shirt and black hoodie with a front zipper.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Afghanistan tops the agenda as Stephen Harper meets with Barack Obama at the White House at **metronews.ca/canada**

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'Living on death's doorstep'

Cycling crew makes stop in city to raise organ donation awareness

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

Twenty years ago, the unthinkable happened. Greg Davis' brother, Olympic swimmer Victor Davis, was struck by a car in Montreal.

The family rushed to the hospital, where the 26-year-old lay on life support for three days.

The world record-breaking Olympian — who won a gold and two silver medals at the 1984 Summer Olympics and a silver medal at the 1988 Summer Olympics — had discussed organ donation with his family a year earlier, said Greg Davis. "We knew what Victor wanted."

The family made the decision to donate his organs.

It was difficult.

"I was looking at a man who was so full of life. And he was gone. But he gave five different people a new lease on life, including a grandfather who got 17 more years," Davis said. "So he was a hero in a way."

Accompanied by double-lung transplant recipient Grant Hagerty and supporter Terry Phillips, Davis stopped in Ottawa yesterday as a part of the eight-day Victor Davis Memorial Ride to raise awareness for organ and tissue donation.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Sabrina Michelacci, left, Greg Davis, double-lung transplant recipient Grant Hagerty, and Terry Phillips made a stop at the Ottawa Civic Hospital yesterday during their eight-day cycling trip from Guelph to Montreal to promote organ donation.

Hagerty knows what a big difference organ donation can make.

The Waterloo resident, who suffered from sarcoid, an autoimmune disease, was given three months to live.

"In 2005, I was on oxygen 24 hours a day and made it into the transplant program," said Hagerty. "In August 2006, I was living on death's doorstep."

The double-lung transplant saved his life, he said. Now 54, Hagerty lives a full life. An active volunteer, he teaches kids to ski, speaks on behalf of Gift of Life and fundraises for university athletics.

In Canada, there are 1,750 names on the waiting list for a transplant, with one person dying each day in Canada, Hagerty said.

A donor can save up to eight lives through organ donation and up to 75 through tissue donation.

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Bike racks highlight Bank Street rejuvenation

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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REHABILITATION As part of the Bank Street rehabilitation project, the city has commissioned a series of new artist-designed bike racks on the streets between Laurier Avenue and Somerset Street.

The 30 stainless steel bike racks — designed by emerging and established Ottawa artists to showcase the unique identity and character of the neighbourhood — encourages cycling and movement up and down the street.

The first piece heading south on Bank Street is Howie Tsui's log-driver based on the National Film Board animated short.

"It's a reference to the history of Ottawa as a logging town before it became a government town," he said.

"It makes connections to the Ottawa River and the canal as well."

Each design will be produced three times for a total of 90 racks, which will be installed from Laurier Avenue to the Queensway by late fall.

Injunction sought over Lansdowne

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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COURT The Lansdowne Park partnership could be running up against a legal challenge.

Yesterday, John E. Martin, the founder of Vitally Ottawa — Absolument Ottawa delivered a notice of judicial review court to the city relating to its negotiations with the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group.

A judge would be looking into the legality of the negotiations on Nov. 12, but Martin will be demanding an emergency injunction to halt the negotiations as early as Sept. 28.

"What we (are) asking for is a writ from the judge directing the city to not only cancel the sole source, but to immediately enact a request for proposals," said Martin. "This is not adding a baseball diamond or putting in a new pitchers mound. We're talking several hundred million dollars of taxpayer money."

Martin insists that city council is violating its own procurement bylaws by entering into sole-source negotiations for a $250-million redevelopment at Lansdowne Park that would require half those funds coming from the city.

Bylaw

- Martin said the procurement bylaw requires a competitive procurement for goods and services valued greater than $100,000.

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Taillon still in ADQ leadership race
Gilles Taillon, Mario Dumont's former right-hand man, is staying in the race to become the new Action democratique du Quebec leader despite having cancer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

NORTEL NETWORKS

Ottawa won't block wireless sale

Industry Minister Tony Clement says Ottawa won't block the $1.13-billion US sale of Nortel Networks' wireless division to Sweden's Ericsson. The minister says there is no basis for a federal review of the deal on national security grounds. As well, the deal falls under the value threshold of Investment Canada review guidelines. In addition, Ericsson is planning to offer jobs to 800 Nortel workers in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PM, Obama talk war, trade

Leaders meet in Washington, D.C.

The United States has not yet settled on the best strategy for the ongoing war in Afghanistan, and won't commit to sending more troops until it does, President Barack Obama said yesterday after meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

The two leaders met in the Oval Office for more than an hour, touching on a variety of issues that included trade irritants, energy and the continuing Afghan mission, in which Canada is a major partner.

But it was Obama's stark admission about the U.S. role in Afghanistan — the original goal of the mission is all but a distant memory. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trade

- Obama and Harper discussed a variety of subjects, most notably the economy, the flow of energy between the two countries and the various trade "irritants" that have cropped up, in particular the "Buy America" policy adopted by the U.S.

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Regina **Troop on parade**

TROY FLEECE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Members of Troop 17, the first all-female RCMP cadets, march at RCMP depot to celebrate 35 years of female uniformed members in the RCMP yesterday, in Regina. The troop started training on Sept. 16, 1974 and graduated on March 3, 1975.

News in brief

HEALTH Pregnant women, health workers, children, people living in remote places, and adults with chronic conditions should be first to roll up their sleeves for a swine flu shot when it's ready, says the country's top doctor. Dr. David Butler-Jones, Canada's chief public health officer, says those groups are most vulnerable to the H1N1 virus. Vaccinations are expected in November.

TAXES Dalton McGuinty is putting federal Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff on the spot over the controversial harmonization of sales taxes. The Ontario premier called on his federal cousin yesterday to come clean about his stand on blending the provincial sales tax with the federal GST. "I had the clearest of impressions that the federal Liberal party was to be supportive of our efforts to move ahead with a single sales tax in the province of Ontario," McGuinty said. "There appears to be some doubt now associated with that, so I will be seeking clarification at the earliest possible opportunity." McGuinty was forced to issue a clarification himself on Tuesday after saying Ignatieff had agreed to support the harmonized sales tax. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal agency spent $11K on golf balls: Report

SPENDING A federal government agency set up to help struggling farmers spent $11,320 for golf balls and tees over the last two years.

The same agency, Farm Credit Canada, doled out another $34,255 for 454 tickets to "sporting events."

Despite the golfing and cheering, there was still enough time for Tim Hortons — to the tune of $20,500 dished out for refreshments.

The outlays for entertainment and pick-me-ups were only a fraction of millions of dollars worth of detailed spending by all departments and agencies that were disclosed this week.

The rush of documents on obscure expenditures was so massive that messengers had to roll it into the Library of Parliament on a trolley. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Greenpeace ends Alberta oilsands protest after 31 hours
A Greenpeace protest by two dozen activists at the massive Shell oilsands mine in northern Alberta ended peacefully after 31 hours with an agreement that there will be no charges and no arrests. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protesters target MPs

Anti-seal-hunt activists disrupt Commons

Anti-seal-hunt activists took their protest to Parliament yesterday.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals shouted down politicians in the House of Commons — and in front of the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

In Ottawa, three female protesters, dressed in religious garb, interrupted question period from their perch in the gallery.

"The seal slaughter is a bad habit."
Sign waved at PETA protest at Commons

The trio briefly waved signs reading "The seal slaughter is a bad habit" and chanted before security arrested them.

In Washington, three PETA protesters dressed in seal costumes stained with red paint were dragged away by police as they tried to stop traffic.

Their protest coincided with Prime Minister Stephen Harper's visit to the White House, where he was meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Secret Service says the women are facing charges of mischief, unlawful assembly and resisting arrest. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Honouring the fallen **A kiss for her hero**

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Widow Annie Roberge blows a kiss as she kneels with her four-year-old son Charles (glasses), her six-year-old daughter Alexandra, behind, and an unidentified relative, left, as a hearse carrying her husband, Maj. Yannick Pepin, leaves his funeral service at CFB Valcartier yesterday. Pepin and Corp. Jean-Francois Drouin were killed in Afghanistan on Sept.6 by a roadside bomb.

Man fights off bear with arrow

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

BRAVERY A British Columbia man fought off a charging grizzly bear by stabbing it with an arrow.

Fort St. John native Rory Chapple was hunting with a bow in the Kechika River area near the Yukon border on Sept. 8.

"I left camp … and all of a sudden behind me I heard a huffing sound," Chapple said yesterday.

He turned to see a female bear, trailed by three cubs, coming full tilt toward him.

"I started to holler at her … when I was doing that I hooked my heel and started to fall backwards."

The bear tried to jump on top of him. He pulled an arrow out of his quiver and stabbed her in the throat, Chapple said.

"Her elbow squashed my head into the ground and she turned to run away with the arrow stuck in her neck."

Chapple said he's fine except for a sore back and some residual jitters.

Ex-MP charged over DUI, cocaine

DRIVING Former Conservative MP Rahim Jaffer is facing charges of drunk driving and cocaine possession.

Jaffer, husband of Tory MP Helena Guergis, was arrested in the wee hours of Friday morning by Ontario Provincial Police in the village of Palgrave, north of Toronto.

His licence has been suspended for 90 days and he is to appear in court in Orangeville on Oct. 19.

Jaffer, 37, was MP for Edmonton-Strathcona from 1997 until a surprise defeat in last year's election. He was 25 when he arrived in Parliament. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

POLITICS Ontario's governing Liberals are hoping to hang on to an important Toronto riding today as voters head to the polls for a crucial byelection. But opposition party candidates insist that voter anger over proposed tax harmonization and expense fiascos at provincial agencies will be enough to dislodge the Liberals from the seat they've held for a decade. Journalist Sue-Ann Levy is running for the Tories, Julian Heller for the NDP and Eric Hoskins for the Liberals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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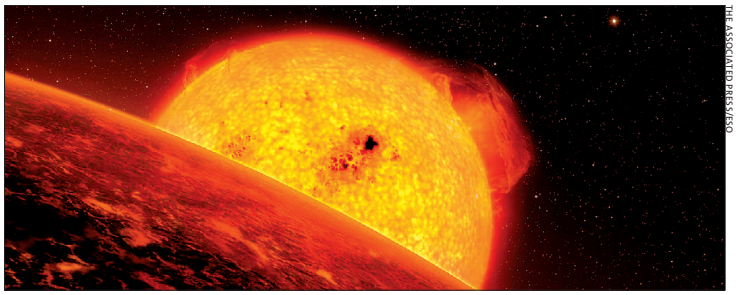
Pair of Brazilian police sentenced to 500 years

Two former police officers were sentenced yesterday to roughly 500 years in prison each in the 2005 killing of 29 people outside Rio de Janeiro, a massacre that raised fears of death-squad activity in Brazil. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Guinness record reaches new heights

A towering Turk was officially crowned the world's tallest man yesterday after his Ukrainian rival dropped out of the running by refusing to be measured. Guinness World Records said that eight-foot-one Sultan Kosen, left, from the town of Mardin in eastern Turkey, is now officially the tallest man walking the planet. Although the previous record holder, Ukrainian Leonid Stadnyk, reportedly measured eight feet 5.5 inches, Guinness said he was stripped of his title when he declined to let anyone confirm his height. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ESO

This image provided by the European Southern Observatory shows an artist rendition of the first rocky extrasolar planet called Corot-7b.

Solid as a rock

But newly discovered planet may be a little warm

Astronomers have finally found a place outside our solar system where there's a firm place to stand — if only it weren't so broiling hot.

As scientists search the skies for life elsewhere, they have found more than 300 planets outside our solar system.

But they all have been gas balls or can't be proven to be solid.

Now a team of European astronomers has confirmed the first rocky extrasolar planet.

Scientists have long figured that if life begins on a planet, it needs a solid surface to rest on, so finding one elsewhere is a big deal.

1,982C

Approximate surface temperature of Corot-7b

"We basically live on a rock ourselves," said co-discoverer Artie Hartzes, director of the Thuringer observatory in Germany.

"It's as close to something like the Earth that we've found so far. It's just a little too close to its sun."

So close that its surface temperature is more than 1,982 C, too toasty to sustain life. It circles its star in just 20 hours.

By comparison, Mercury, the planet nearest our sun, completes its solar orbit in 88 days.

The planet is called Corot-7b. Now that another rocky planet has been found so close to its own star, it gives scientists more confidence that they will find more Earth-like planets where the conditions could be more favourable for life.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Execution date set for D.C. sniper

U.S. A Virginia judge yesterday set a Nov. 10 execution date for John Allen Muhammad, mastermind of the 2002 sniper attacks in the Washington, D.C., area that left 10 dead.

The date, which falls on a Tuesday, was picked so courts would be open the day before in case they have to take up last-minute appeals, said Jonathan Sheldon, Muhammad's attorney.

Sheldon said Muhammad will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court and ask Virginia Gov. Timothy M. Kaine for clemency.

Muhammad was sentenced to death for the slaying of Dean Meyers, one of 10 people shot to death during a 2002 rampage that terrorized the District of Columbia area. Muhammad and teenage accomplice Lee Boyd Malvo killed six people in Alabama and Louisiana before moving on to Maryland, D.C. and Virginia, where Meyers was shot at a Manassas gas station. Six others were wounded.

Malvo is serving life in prison for the shooting spree. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Egypt won't follow Sudan law

TROUSERS Egypt's top Islamic authority has defended women's right to wear trousers in public following a high-profile court case in neighbouring Sudan. Grand Mufti Ali Gomaa said in a public lecture Monday that trousers covering women's bodies are permitted, emphasizing they should be loose and not see through. Gomaa's remarks were published yesterday in the Egyptian daily al-Shorouk as well as other newspapers.

His answer was in response to a question from the audience.

Sudan caused a stir when it flogged 10 women for wearing trousers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman accused of sex with son

INCEST The Detroit-area woman accused of having sex with her biological son after finding him through the Internet has been charged. Aimee Louise Sword, 35, is making news for finding the son she gave up for adoption 10 years earlier and allegedly having a romantic relationship with the teen. Sword is facing a charge of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Israel, Hamas reject UN Gaza report

MIDDLE EAST Gazans who lost loved ones during Israel's winter offensive against Hamas militants said yesterday they're taking some solace from a UN report that accuses both sides of committing war crimes, but they're skeptical anyone will be brought to justice.

In Israel, the findings of the UN team sparked outrage and deepened a sense that the Jewish state is being treated unfairly by the international community.

Both deny claims

- Both Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers rejected the UN team's allegations of war crimes during last winter's fighting.

While the UN investigation labelled Hamas rocket attacks on Israeli towns as war crimes, the bulk of the findings focused on Israeli actions during the three-week war.

The report echoed findings in a string of human rights reports released in recent months, but it could carry more weight, both because it was authored by a widely respected former war-crimes prosecutor, Richard Goldstone, and because, at least in theory, it opens the way to charges against Israel before the International Criminal Court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas Twins back for checkups

JIM OTT/FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mohamed Ibrahim, left, is held by his father as twin brother Ahmed, background, pushes an elevator button in Dallas. The formerly conjoined Egyptian twins who were separated six years ago in Dallas have returned to Texas for checkups.

ECA-09-015

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Obama thinks criticism not based on race
The White House says U.S. President Barack Obama does not believe that the criticism of his policies are because of his race. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gunmen kill 10 at Mexico drug rehab

Massacre 2nd at a treatment centre this month

Gunmen burst into a drug treatment centre in the northern Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez and shot to death 10 people, the second such mass killing this month.

Police say nine men and one woman were killed in the attack just before midnight Tuesday at the Anexo de Vida centre in Mexico's most violent city. Two people were seriously wounded.

A spokesman for Chihuahua state police said yesterday the identities of the gunmen and the motive for the attack have not yet been established.

But officials have said in the past that drug gangs may be using treatment centres to recruit dealers, or may be targeting them to eliminate rivals.

Most of the victims are believed to have been recovering addicts staying at the facility.

On Sept. 2, gunmen lined patients against a wall at another rehabilitation centre in Ciudad Juarez and then riddled them with bullets, killing 18.

Five men were killed at another rehabilitation centre in June, and in August 2008, gunmen barged into a pastor's sermon at a rehabilitation centre and opened fire, killing eight people. Authorities have not said if any of the attacks are related.

Ciudad Juarez has seen the worst of the nation's drug violence, with more than 1,300 deaths this year. The bloodshed has continued despite a buildup in troops since March.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bloodshed

- Surging gang violence has claimed 13,500 lives since President Felipe Calderon took office in 2006 and deployed extra soldiers across Mexico to fight cartels.

News in brief

RAPE A wealthy Russian-American car exporter in Philadelphia has been sentenced to eight years in prison for procuring girls for sex from a St. Petersburg orphanage in Russia. Prosecutors say Andrew Mogilyansky, 39, raped one girl on her 14th birthday and a 13-year-old in her first sexual encounter.

EMBARGO Cuba will not make any political or policy concessions to improve relations with the U.S. — no matter how small, Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez said yesterday, snubbing Washington's suggestions that some reforms could lead to better ties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Internet child porn getting worse, says UN

EXPLOITATION The number of websites containing child pornography is increasing and more images show serious abuses, a UN expert said yesterday.

More than four million websites worldwide show images of children being sexually exploited, said the UN investigator on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, Najat M'jid Maalla.

"There is an increase in the number of sites recorded," she told the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, citing research by the U.K.-industry group Internet Watch Foundation.

"The number of images showing serious exploitation quadrupled between 2003 and 2007, showing abject images of brutal rape, bondage, oral sex and other forms of debasement," Maalla said. She did not give precise figures.

Over 750,000 people are using child porn sites at any time, said Maalla, a Moroccan medical doctor who was appointed to the unpaid U.N. post last year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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10 world

Pilot had wrong radio frequency before August crash: Official
A U.S. official says the pilot of a plane in a collision in New York read back the wrong radio frequency but was not corrected. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China consuming energy at alarming rate: Study

If China's economy continues to expand rapidly and rely heavily on coal and other fossil fuels until the middle of the century, its power consumption would be unsustainable, according to a study by government think tanks released yesterday.

The two-year study, supported by the U.S.-based Energy Foundation and the international environmental group WWF, also said if China's energy usage structure remains unchanged, its emissions of greenhouse gases blamed for global warming would reach 17 billion tons a year by 2050. That would represent 60 per cent of total global emissions and three times China's current production, it said.

> **"If the current mode of economic development drags on, the scale of China's fossil fuel consumption will be shocking."**
> Study

"If the current mode of economic development drags on, the scale of China's fossil fuel consumption will be shocking," said the study, titled China's Low Carbon Development Pathways by 2050.

The researchers said global warming will challenge China more than many other countries, with its east coast cities contending with rising sea levels, and drought-prone agricultural areas suffering further water shortages.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Karzai clears major hurdle in Afghanistan election voting

KANDAHAR Afghan President Hamid Karzai's re-election bid cleared a major hurdle yesterday.

Afghan election officials issued the first of what will be several final-but-preliminary vote counts yesterday and gave Karzai, the acknowledged front-runner, 54.6 per cent of the vote.

That's well clear of the 50 per cent threshold he needs to avoid having to go to a second ballot against his principal challenger, former foreign minister Abdullah Abdullah, who claimed 27.7 per cent of the vote.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

EXECUTION A prison log blames a condemned inmate's past drug use for problems finding a usable vein during an execution attempt that was stopped Tuesday after an unprecedented two hours. The log of the scheduled execution of Romell Broom indicates that executioners made the observation at 3:11 p.m., more than an hour after first trying to find a vein. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Public life, private affairs

Relating

Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

We are warned again and again of the complications workplace romances can create, particularly when they end. But just where are typical working slobs, who spend most of their waking hours on the job, supposed to meet someone?

These affairs become exponentially more perilous when one is: a) married; and b) a public office holder.

It's called public life for a reason. Apart from car and real estate sales, few other jobs require pasting your name on billboards. A politician is sort of famous, and also sort of lonely. Hours are long.

The family is either on display (during campaigns) or left behind (the rest of the time). They've already paid the price in divided attention, in missed birthdays and countless other absences. And then gossip becomes news.

Northwest Territories Premier Floyd Roland is currently under investigation for an extramarital affair with Patricia Russell, a legislature clerk.

As usual, our homegrown sex scandal is lighter on the sex than is the norm in American politics.

To take only the most recent example from down south, California assemblyman Michael Duvall was caught by a live microphone boasting, in entirely too much detail, of his sexual adventures with a younger woman bearing no resemblance to his wife.

On the web

• For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

Even in the overheated U.S. media climate, however, there has to be a "so what?" to the story. Lest the press, opposition politicos and public be accused of simply nosing into someone's private life, the accused must be guilty of something more than getting some, even though the sex is the only reason anyone is interested.

"As usual, our homegrown sex scandal is lighter on the sex than is the norm in American politics."

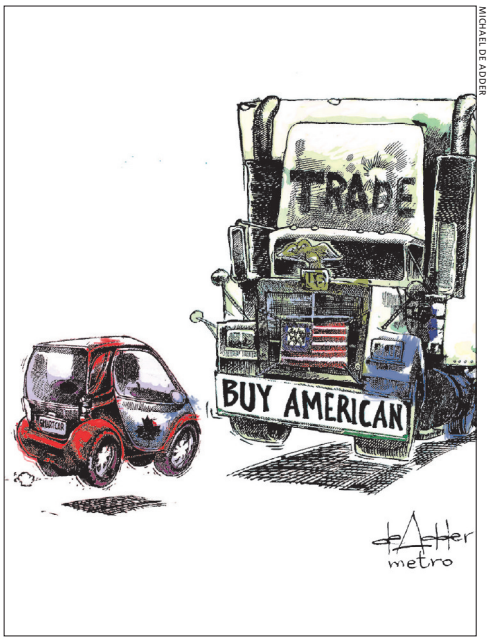
The "so what?" was easily furnished in this case: Duvall's alleged extracurricular playmate was also a lobbyist for an energy company with business before his committee. He also scored bonus points for hypocrisy, since he built a career as a conservative "family values" stalwart, an irony that's becoming so commonplace it's beginning to lose its shock.

Duvall has resigned and spared his wife the ritualistic stand-by-your-man press conference. In fact, he's not even admitting to the affair, just "inappropriate storytelling," preferring perhaps to be remembered as a liar rather than an adulterer.

Up north, the "so what?" is trickier to come by. The premier's accusers are alleging Russell passed confidential info to Roland. So far, the evidence is scant, but the allegation is sufficient to keep the inquiry going and remind voters regularly about his philandering.

Keep all this in mind the next time your own workplace hook-up becomes the subject of mortifying office gossip. It could always be worse.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

Swearing at boss no grounds for dismissal: Spanish court

A court in Barcelona says insulting your boss with one particularly foul obscenity is not grounds for dismissal, insisting the slight is common in arguments in Spain and not that big a deal.

The zinger in question translates as "son of a b—" and was used by a worker against his boss during a January 2008 money dispute in the northeastern city of Gerona. The worker, who also called his boss "crazy," was promptly fired.

The man lost a first court challenge, but won on appeal with the Superior Court of Justice of Catalonia in February.

"Without a doubt, both expressions are insulting," Judge Sara Maria Pose Vidal said in the ruling, a copy of which was obtained by the AP. But she noted that when the man called his boss crazy, he had been on his way out of the office and the boss did not hear it.

She also wrote that the "son of a b—" remark should be viewed in linguistic context.

Option

• The ruling — first reported this week by Spanish human resources website Carta de Personal — said the worker should either be reinstated in his job or receive 6,483 euros ($9,472) in compensation. It is not known which option the employer picked.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Views

Helping women hold up half the sky

FourthWave

Canice Leung

metronews.ca/fourthwave

It's alternatingly a point of pride and embarrassment to be a Canadian woman. We're an egalitarian country, but our annual bilateral aid amounts to $1.5 billion, compared to the $1 billion and climbing we put into the conflict in Afghanistan each year (and at least $10 billion to date). We live in relative utopia, but we turn away from the world's women, who face oppressive poverty, discrimination and violence.

And what horrors we ignore. In Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn's new book, Half the Sky, we learn about women trafficked, drugged, beaten and killed in forced prostitution; women who die in childbirth or suffer stigmatizing, debilitating pregnancy-related injuries; women community organizers who are gang-raped for trying to help.

These stories aren't new, but they still fall on deaf ears. I'm guilty of that, rarely donating time or money. Feminists as a whole aren't much better — for all our protesting, most of it is Western-centric and relatively petty.

The book's title and the Chinese proverb it's derived from — "Women hold up half the sky" — cuts to the heart of our uncomfortable privilege.

The key is helping women elevate themselves through education and economic emancipation, they argue, so hands off:

More info

• Learn what you can do at halftheskymovement.org

• Give freely to grassroots charities, which hire savvy locals and can reach poor, rural areas that need help most.

• Fund microloans that target women, who are more likely than their husbands to invest family resources in education, health and income-generating businesses.

• Support education — Kristof and WuDunn cite evidence that educated girls have lower fertility rates (more kids exacerbate poverty), lower childbirth morbidity, are less likely to be abused, and have a greater chance at financial success.

These targeted initiatives have far-reaching effects, changing the way cultures see their women — not as burdens or inferiors, but as individuals that offer social purpose, independence and knowledge.

But why should I gush about this brilliant book? Read for yourself why feminism is still relevant, and why we need a new kind of foreign aid. I hope it embarrasses you enough to do something — it did for me. Camfed, which provides education to African girls, is now getting $10 US a month from me.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryerson University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.

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Belgian farmers say they're being milked dry due to low dairy prices

Belgian farmers sprayed three million litres of fresh milk onto their fields yesterday, furious over the low milk prices they say are bankrupting farmers. Milk farmers' groups said world prices had sunk so much they are having to sell milk at half their production costs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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Unemployment to linger: OECD

A 30-nation think tank is warning Canada may face a long period of high unemployment despite what it believes will be a major boost from Ottawa's stimulus package.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development projects that the stimulus will reduce job losses stemming from the recession by between 0.7 per cent and 1.1 per cent of the workforce in 2010. That is roughly in the range of Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's claim in the January budget that stimulus would create or save about 190,000 jobs over two years.

"This is both because the size of the fiscal package was reasonably large (fifth largest in the OECD as a percentage of GDP) and because employment in Canada is relatively responsive to fiscal stimuli such as tax cuts and public expenditures," the Paris-based think-tank wrote.

But the report notes that even if the jobless rate has peaked at 8.7 per cent, "Canada's labour market typically takes a long time to recover from recessions." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bankruptcies up one-third over '08, down since June

FINANCES The number of bankruptcies in Canada rose by more than a third in July compared with the year earlier, the latest figures show. But the number fell slightly from June.

Some observers say the data from the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, released yesterday, show that the tide of insolvency swamping Canadian households is easing, a sign that the worst of the recession may have passed.

Others said the slowdown was typical of midsummer.

There were 10,726 personal and business bankruptcy filings in July, up from 7,908 a year ago, the monthly report showed. That's an increase of nearly 35.6 per cent. Bankruptcy filings were down 5.4 per cent in July from the 11,338 filings in the previous month. The overwhelming majority of the filings came from consumers, while the number of business bankruptcies fell from last year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business in brief

RECESSION Manufacturing sales rose 5.5 per cent in July to $41.4 billion, adding to the 2.2 per cent increase reported in June, Statistics Canada reports. The jump came with improved performances in the motor vehicle, auto parts and primary metals industries. Production in the motor vehicle industry rose 48.2 per cent in July to $3.3 billion. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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(1) No purchase necessary. Contest ends October 1, 2009. See buildabash.ca for Contest Rules.

BUILD-A-BASH AND WIN![1] Enter PO092B9 at buildabash.ca for points towards a koodo-rific party.

Bills corner not pressing charges
Buffalo Bills cornerback Leodis McKelvin said yesterday he doesn't want anyone arrested for painting an obscenity and the game's score on the front lawn of his home shortly after a 25-24 season-opening loss at New England on Monday. McKelvin is being partly blamed for the loss after his fumble set up the Patriots' winning drive. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Cowboys eye record

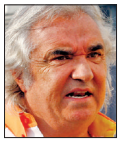
The new Cowboys Stadium may set an attendance record this Sunday. A Cowboys spokesman says the team's standing-room tickets have sold out. The Cowboys will say only that the standing-room total exceeds 20,000 fans. Combined with regular ticket sales in the 80,000-seat stadium, Dallas could challenge the NFL attendance record of 103,467 set Oct. 2, 2005 at Azteca Stadium in Mexico City. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Renault F1 won't fight allegations

CRASH Renault has announced it will "not dispute" allegations of race fixing when it appears before the World Motor Sport Council next week, and that team principal Flavio Briatore and engineering director Pat Symonds have left the company.

The two men stand accused of conspiring with former driver Nelson Piquet Jr. to crash on purpose at the 2008 Singapore Grand Prix, prompting a safety car period that helped promote teammate Fernando Alonso to victory.


Flavio Briatore

In August, angry at being fired from Renault, Piquet brought his actions in Singapore to the attention of the sport's governing body, the FIA.

Renault threatened to sue Piquet and his family over "false allegations and a related attempt to blackmail the team" ahead of last week's Italian Grand Prix, but after Pat Symonds stonewalled an FIA investigation, and his statement was leaked to the press, the team was backed into a corner. METRO WORLD NEWS

Surfing Pros come to Canada

PHOTO COURTESY JEREMY KOREKSKI

Noah Cohen busts an inverted air off the coast of his hometown of Tofino, B.C. The city will host the Cold Water Classic Canada from Oct. 25-31, the first professional surfing competition sponsored by the Association of Surfing professionals to be held in Canadian waters.

Sports in brief

COACHING Toronto Raptors head coach Jay Triano, the only Canadian head coach in the NBA, has teamed up with Campbell's and the Coaching Association of Canada (CAC) to help launch the Chunky MVC: Most Valuable Coach contest. Through the program, individuals can nominate a coach that's made a difference in their lives at www.chunkymvc.ca. Six finalists will be chosen in January, and the public votes on the winner, which receives $25,000 to go toward his or her athletes and community.

MLS Major League Soccer will take a two-week break during the group phase of the World Cup for the first time next summer. MLS announced yesterday that it will not play any games from June 11-25. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Panthers take 2nd straight from Sens

NHL RESULT
Florida 2 Ottawa 1

AT

Despite a veteran presence in the lineup, the Ottawa Senators dropped a second straight pre-season game to the Florida Panthers yesterday.

Jordan Leopold and Dmitri Kulikov scored as the Panthers defeated the Senators 2-1. The Senators were beaten 3-1 by the Panthers on Tuesday.

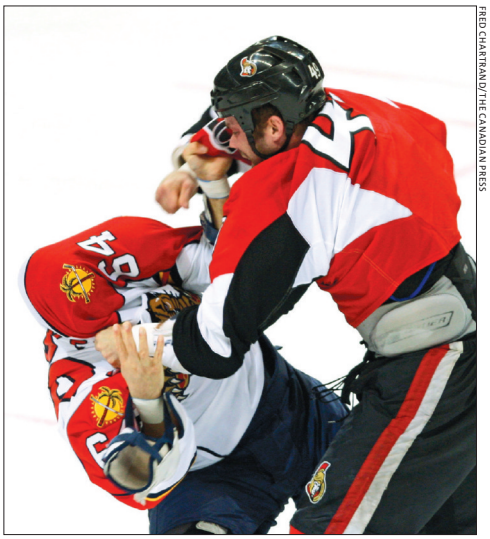
Ottawa fans got their first look at Alex Kovalev, Jonathan Cheechoo and prospect Erik Karlsson.

While Kovalev and Cheechoo will be counted on to make up much of the offence lost in the Dany Heatley trade, Karlsson is just hoping to make enough of an impact to make the team.

Karlsson, the Senators first-round pick, 15th overall, in 2008, played his second consecutive game and didn't look out of place.

The Panthers opened the scoring on a power play seven minutes into the first period. Senators goalie Brian Elliott left the right side of his net wide open, and Leopold took advantage.

Despite a couple of good chances in the opening period, the Senators were unable to tie the game. THE CANADIAN PRESS


FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa's Jeremy Yablonski throws a punch at Florida's Adam Keefe last night. The Panthers downed the Senators 2-1.

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EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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Get your mitts on hot pots

EMMA YARDLEY
for Metro Canada

Simmering, boiling, sautéing, frying, stewing, steaming — day in and day out, your pots take a lot of heat. But not all cookware is created equal so when you're out looking for a new addition to your stovetop family, make sure your getting the right one for the job.

"Aluminum is light and heats quickly but is too thin for home cooking everyday," says Andrew Chase, food editor of Homemakers magazine. "Stainless steel won't rust and is non-reactive so it doesn't affect the colour or taste of the food. Cast iron retains heat the best but you need to season it regularly with vegetable oil — never wash it with soap!"

A good alternative is enameled cast iron, which distributes heat well and is easy to clean. Chase also recommends looking for cookware with comfortable handles that won't heat up quickly and well-fitting lids. He recently became a fan of glass lid because he can check to see if something's doing what it's suppose to be doing without losing any of the heat. And when it comes to pots, it's all about the heat!

Homes in Style

1. This All-Clad stainless steel asparagus pot cooks each green stalk to perfection. Williams-Sonoma, $100, williams-sonoma.ca.
2. You'll want a six-burner stove just so you can use every piece at the same time. Calphalon Contemp Cookware, $799.99, Home Outfitters, homeoutfitters.com.
3. Sometimes to cook like a pro, you need the tools of a pro. Lagostina Commercial Pro 12-piece Cookset, $599.99, Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.
4. The elegant copper Mauviel Potato Steamer gently cooks North America's favourite starch. Williams-Sonoma, $495, williams-sonoma.ca.
5. The thick walls of SENIOR cookware help distribute heat evenly and are oven-safe. Fondue set, $49.99; casserole, 3L, $44.99; casserole, 5L, $54.99; frying pan, $39.99; frying pan, $34.99. Ikea, ikea.com.
6. This small cast iron casserole is light, sturdy and economical. President's Choice Home, $79.99, home.pc.ca.
7. Stainless steel cookware is easily to clean and compliments any colour scheme. Homesense, $24.99 to $39.99, homesense.ca.

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Spring trough cleaning done, now here comes fall

HomeScape

I've been ignoring my eavestroughs for most of the summer, in spite of the nice man who offered to clean them out.

But checking and cleaning out eavestroughs isn't usually high on anyone's agenda. Let's face it, eavestroughs are easy to ignore.

Now there are little trees and other plants growing up there. And when it rains, the eavestroughs don't work as intended. How can they? They're full of crud.

If you're like me, you may need a little reminder that you're in for trouble if you continue to ignore your eavestroughs. Water blockages in your trough and leaking water, if left unattended, can eventually cause a world of pain for homeowners. Things like a damp or flooded basement, roof damage, rotted or ruined siding, cracked and prematurely peeling paint and failed mortar joints could result. You'll be kicking yourself (and you deserve to be kicked) if you find yourself shelling out your hard-earned cash for these completely preventable types of repairs.

Eavestroughs should be cleaned or checked twice a year, preferably in the fall and in the late spring.

To clean, drag out the ladder, dig out the heavy rubber gloves, a brush and a bucket, and scoop out all the twigs, old seeds, the odd tennis ball and dirt that accumulates.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

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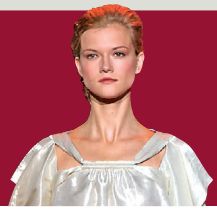
Marc's colourful collection
The Marc by Marc Jacobs spring 2010 show in New York featured bright, sometimes clashing colours and crazy patterns. Even the menswear was a little out there: A red plaid trench coat was paired with blue vertical striped pants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Style



The slash dress

With all its slashed material and bandaged dresses, New York Fashion Week could be mistaken for a haute hospital ward. The banded look was everywhere — at Herve Leger, of course, where it is the signature item — but also at Carolina Herrera (left) on Monday, Alexander Wang, Lela Rose, Nicole Miller and in Victoria Beckham's new collection. The look is formfitting, but surprisingly forgiving. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Black is back for spring

At NY Fashion Week coveted brands went dark, but not gloomy

Fashion for spring is back in black. Black never went anywhere, of course — it's a perennial favourite with the crowd at New York Fashion Week. But for spring collections, the look wasn't terribly sunny.

The nod to the spring /summer season was to offset the black with white and shades of nude, blush and stone, all part of the overall muted look that has dominated at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week.

Yet the black wasn't severe, especially rendered in featherweight fabrics in sheer organza, tulle and black lace. A wave of black swept the runways of Rodarte, Vera Wang, Badgley Mischka and Jill Stuart on Tuesday.

Rodarte

The ravens rose at Rodarte. With a smoke-filled runway beneath them, models wore outfits resembling the contradictory symbol of darkness and survival.

Even with tiny asphalt pebbles on the ground, haunting music and the smoke, all the drama really came from the clothes. Every garment seemed a cobweb of leather, yarn, ribbons, lace and cheesecloth. Some of the pieces were adorned with crystals, feathers and leather made to look like birdskin.

When stripped down without all the effect, some of the major trends of Fashion Week where here: draping, banding and lattice-like leather, among them.

Everything has been formfitting in the spring collections

Vera Wang

In her stark white SoHo store, Wang presented sophisticated styles that she said were influenced by the late Paul Poiret, who left an indelible stamp on fashion in the early 20th century. He gave women the freedom to wear looser chemise shapes, and Wang picked up on that: There wasn't a corset style in sight.

She mostly went for sultry instead of overtly sexy with layers of smoky-colored tulle, sheer black organza and artful, not flashy, embellished jewel details. Metallic pieces were a bit stiff, standing away from the body, while the bike shorts underneath the see-through styles hugged it.

Betsey Johnson

Designer Betsey Johnson's signature item is the party dress, so on Tuesday evening she threw herself a party at the Plaza Hotel.

There was no runway for her spring collection, just pretty young things wearing upbeat, youthful clothes while dancing and singing to Blondie cover songs by the live band Ida Maria.

The models, up on a stage, were just a backdrop to Johnson, who hammed it up for cameras. Oh yeah, they were wearing strapless dresses in candy colours, a black sequin cocktail frock with a frilly skirt, a blue metallic skirt suit and some lingerie-inspired styles.

Gottex

Gottex presented a new interpretation of swimwear, with sequined one-pieces, plastic-looking bikinis and wide belts wrapped around the waist like the suits were superhero costumes.

There weren't too many "wearable" suits, unless you don't mind an off-the-shoulder bikini top with sleeves.

But perhaps what was most stunning were the coverups that were like elegant caftans; a red abstract print with drapey sleeves touched the runway, flowing behind the model as she walked. And a blue and gold lame caftan added sophistication to a black corset-like suit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VERA WANG

BETSEY JOHNSON

GOTTEX

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Though black was a dominant colour on New York Fashion Week runways, it was offset with various shades and rendered in featherweight fabrics.

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TWIN SET

Basic tank in Light Pink and Sweetie top in Plum ($78 and $88, Yummie Tummie)

SHAPE SHIFTER

Muffin tops, uni-boob and other fashion casualties caused by wearing too-tight body-slimming garments are jettisoned with Yummie Tummie, shapewear that merges style with function. Jennifer Lopez swore by the cotton tops and body-con dresses with strategically placed spandex-polyester panels to slim her post-baby silhouette. The latest offering includes the Sweetie top and the basic tank in new fall shades that can be worn alone to the gym or under your blazer.

A HIT OF RED

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Iron Man auction
Next spring's Iron Man 2 premiere will be memorable for two lucky fans. Oxfam Ambassador Scarlett Johansson is auctioning two movie premiere tickets, as well as a meet-and-greet with herself. The auction begins today at 10 p.m. ET at eBay.com/Oxfam. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

Chasing drama
Chace Crawford has shrugged off speculation he is dating Lindsay Lohan and his Gossip Girl co-star Taylor Momsen, dismissing the reports as attempts to "stir up drama."
FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Nelly makes Spanish debut

Nelly Furtado

Album: Mi Plan
Label: Nelstar/Universal
Rating: ●●●●

THE MONSTER SUCCESS of Loose has given Nelly the confidence to do what she wants and pull it off with grace, style and sensuality (in other words, hot without the stripper pole sleaze). This time it's an album sung entirely in Spanish (a bit surprising since her native tongue is Portuguese). As on Loose, Nelly has conscripted a bevy of guest stars to join her. But instead of Justin Timberlake and Timbaland, the list includes Juan Luis Guerra, Alejandro Fernandes, Julieta Venegas, La Mala Rodríguez, Concha Buika and Canadian Latin guitar ace Alex Cuba. There's even a duet with classical crossover Josh Groban. Furtado artfully combines contemporary dance beats with more traditional Latin grooves. It's not far fetched to see a Spanish-language song taking over the North American charts. La Bamba anyone?

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Kid Cudi

Album: Man On The Moon: The End Of Day
Label: GOOD Music/Universal
Rating: ●●●●½

WHEN TAYLOR SWIFT'S BFF Kanye West released his breakup album 808s & Heartbreak, he inadvertently created a new musical subgenre: emo rap. So it makes sense that West's latest signee Kid Cudi would release an album in the same soul-searching vein. But while his debut contains more signing than rapping, it's a far more complex and rewarding listen than 808s. It's also 100 per cent autotune free. Cudi has a real knack for unusual song arrangements combined with candid lyricism reminiscent of Lauryn Hill, and he's used those talents to create one of the most original hip-hop albums of the past few years.

Jason Richards/for Metro Canada

Nelly Furtado embraces her Latin roots with the new Spanish album Mi Plan.

UNIVERSAL MUSIC

Scarlett Johansson & Pete Yorn

Album: Break Up
Label: Atco/Warner
Rating: ●●●

SCARLETT JOHANSSON ISN'T just an actress anymore. With two records under her belt, musician can now be added to her resume. On her new disc she teams up with singer-songwriter Pete Yorn — he wrote and conceived the album — who plays and sings masterfully on this duets record. Johansson, however, sounds flat and emotionless, not great qualities for an album about a break up. It's actually a warm and infectious record, but it would have been better if Yorn got a more experienced singer to help him out.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Sass Jordan

Album: From Dusk 'til Dawn
Label: Kindling/Warner
Rating: ●●●

THERE IS LIFE after Canadian Idol. While it's unlikely that we'll hear very much again from the contestants (with the exception of Hedley's Jacob Hoggard) or even the winners, it seems there will always be work for the judges. Sass Jordan is still churning out the '70s-inspired rock she's always loved and (surprise!) Jake Gold is managing her. That's because Jordan has a great voice and a gift for catchy pop-rockers. The nine original tracks on this CD have just enough grit to give them credibility. And who's going to complain about Jordan singing a cover of Tom Wait's classic Ol' 55. As a matter of fact, if it was 1976 instead of 2009, these songs would be getting huge radio play. But it's not. So we'll just have to enjoy them as a guilty pleasure.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Drake

Album: So Far So Gone
Label: Cash Money/Universal
Rating: ●●●●

NO ONE COULD have expected that a former Degrassi actor would become one of North America's most talked about rappers, but that's exactly what's happened to Aubrey "Drake" Graham. His So Far So Gone mixtape, released in February, was a huge hit thanks to the Kanye West-like club track Best I Ever Had. On his EP the budding songwriter showcases seven tracks off his earlier 17-song release. With a wildly infectious mélange of Jay-Z sounding rhymes, West-ish production and guest spots from Lil Wayne, it's a fantastic introduction to this rising star.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Music Reviews

music@metronews.ca

Mark Knopfler

Album: Get Lucky
Label: Mercury/Universal
Rating: ●●●

THIS SLEEPY SOLO effort from Dire Straits founder Mark Knopfler will be impossible for fans to dislike. It contains an unsurprising mix of traditional Celtic acoustic numbers and mid-tempo blues rockers, all infused with Knopfler's impeccable taste and talent. His guitar shimmers on electric numbers like You Can't Beat the House and Cleaning My Gun, while his storytelling shines on tracks like The Car Was the One (how can you not like a song about a Shelby Cobra?) and the shipwreck tale So Far from the Clyde. We've heard it all before, but there's a maturity to Knopfler's music that will save this disc from being buried behind your old Dire Straits albums.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Listen to this week's reviewed music at metronews.ca/music

Charlize was an illegal alien

South African-born actress Charlize Theron has revealed she was briefly kicked out of the U.S. as her career was taking off because she was working illegally in Hollywood. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

The enchanted life of Dan Brown

The mind of Dan Brown may be a cluster of codes but, in person, he is far from that — a smiling, sandy-haired man with the dimpled chin.

After six years of letting his work do the talking, he is back with his new novel, The Lost Symbol, and to reflect on how The Da Vinci Code changed him from unknown writer to a symbol in his own right.

"I wouldn't trade it for the world," he says in an interview. "My life is much more multifaceted. My experiences have gotten to be much more interesting."

His publisher has ordered a first printing of five million, oversized for virtually any writer except Brown, whose sales for The Da Vinci Code top 40 million.

Like its predecessor, The Lost Symbol — now in stores — is a thriller, puzzler, research paper and travelogue. Protagonist Robert Langdon returns from his European adventures to Washington, D.C., and is caught up in a fateful race against a murderous villain to find a hidden code that supposedly unearths a secret to limitless knowledge and power.

"There will be a lot said, not all of it will be nice. And I'm just kind of used to it."

Dan Brown on expected criticism of his new book, The Lost Symbol

Langdon hurries about from the Library of Congress to the National Archives to the Washington Monument, a capsule of the journeys Brown took in working on the novel, travelling first class all the way with personal tours of the Library of Congress and other buildings.

The new book is centred on the Freemasons, the secretive, centuries-old fraternity that has included George Washington and Teddy Roosevelt. He has great respect for the Masons, especially for their policy of accepting people of all religious faiths.

But like the backlash to The Da Vinci Code, he says he wouldn't be surprised if someone gets angry.

"There will be a lot said, not all of it will be nice," he says. "And I'm just kind of used to it."

FRANCOIS DURAND/GETTY IMAGES

Dan Brown, seen here at the film premiere for The Da Vinci Code — which was based on his novel of the same name — has released a sequel to the blockbuster book called The Lost Symbol.

The Lost Symbol doesn't name names, but with criticisms of waterboarding and religious intolerance, passages suggest the author was not a fan of George W. Bush.

"The people who have read the book have told me that the timing of the book seems preordained," he says. "And they will cite ... the president (Obama) and the change in attitudes toward religion."

"What I'm trying to what to do in this book is send a universal message," he says, adding that while writing The Lost Symbol, he came to realize "we're entering a time where prejudice, prejudice of religion in particular, will start to evaporate."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In the spotlight

- In his new book, The Lost Symbol, Dan Brown probes the fraternal order of the Freemasons.

The Da Vinci Code's protagonist, symbolist Robert Langdon, is searching for a Masonic pyramid containing a code that unlocks a secret to "unfathomable power." But unlike the Catholic backlash over The Da Vinci Code, the Mason response could well be milder.

Brown presents the lodge as benign and misunderstood. The plot centres in part on an "unfair" anti-Masonic video that "conspiracy theorists would feed on ... like sharks," Langdon says.

Brown explains his focus on the Freemasons: "Here is a worldwide organization that essentially says, 'We don't care what you call God, or what you think about God, only that you believe in a god and let's all stand together as brothers and look in the same direction.' ... I think there will be an enormous number of people who will be interested in the Masons after this book (comes out)."

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Jenna's expecting
Less than one month after revealing she "definitely" intends to become a mom-of-two, Jenna Elfman revealed that she is expecting her second child with husband Bodhi Elfman during an appearance CBS' The Early Show. PEOPLE.COM

Perez Hilton, music mogul?

With a record label and an artists' tour underway, the celebrity blogger is promoting music he likes

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

Until recently Perez Hilton's musical adventures involved getting in fights with the Black Eyed Peas or championing Lady Gaga, but the famous blogger wants you to know he can do more than just write about his new favourite band.

"I'm crazy about music," he says. "It's my passion."

You wouldn't be the only wondering how music became more of a passion than trashing stars on his website. However, because Hilton enjoys the bands he likes as much as the Hollywood stars he hates, he's decided to start a label and promote a tour.

The Perez Hilton Presents Tour 2009, which features Ida Maria, Ladyhawke and Semi Precious Weapons, arrives in Toronto tonight and, Hilton says, it should be a memorable show. "People are going to walk away feeling that they've just been part of something cool," he says. "It's going to be experimental, but I don't want to say what will happen just yet."

"The Toronto show will be more acoustic," reveals Norway-based rocker Ida Maria. "That's because our guitar player has to do another gig with another band at the same time, so we're one short."

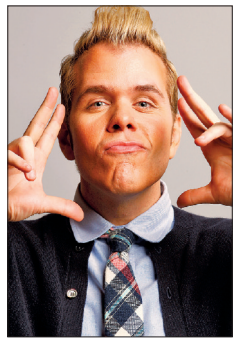
While Maria will likely be a big draw — her debut disc Fortress Round My Heart broke the top 40 on the U.K. charts — it's Hilton's name that will bring in the most fans.

But, the gossip writer doesn't always elicit positive emotions — you either like him or hate him. He says whatever you think shouldn't matter. Go see the show because of the artists.

"Don't say I don't want to go because I don't want to support Perez," he says. "You're not supporting me, you're supporting the musicians. I'm not making money on this tour. I'm pouring it all into the acts, the production and things that we'll make this different."

Hilton's divisive reputation isn't a problem for Maria."I don't have any problems being associated with his fame," she says. "My music speaks for itself."

> **"I don't have any problems being associated with his fame. My music speaks for itself."** Ida Maria



Left, celebrity-blogger-turned-music-promoter Perez Hilton. Right, Norwegian rocker Ida Maria, who is part of the Perez Hilton Presents Tour 2009.

While his name didn't make her think twice about joining his tour, his lack of musical industry experience did.

Before she agreed to hit the road with him she had to find out if this was a joke or not. It didn't take long before she knew he was being serious. "I realized he had some of the best people in the country on board," she reveals. "When I saw that it was a solid plan it made it more attractive to me to do it."

Hilton admits that putting on a tour and setting up his own record label has been a learning process, but he says, "I don't think I've fallen on my face just yet."

Time will tell if Hilton will become the next big music mogul — French pop artist Sliimy, his label's first artist, released Paint Your Face on Tuesday — but at least Hilton thinks his new musical journey will be successful.

"I did this because I know I will do it well," he says.

"I don't want to undertake anything I won't be good at. I've really been able to help musicians in the past so I wanted to kick it up a notch and help my own artists."

Jordan takes home Big Brother crown

TELEVISION Jordan Lloyd was served the $500,000 US grand prize on Big Brother 11. The goofy 22-year-old waitress from Matthews, N.C., bested Natalie Martinez, the scheming 24-year-old recent college graduate from Gilbert, Ariz., on the season finale of the CBS reality show. Lloyd received five votes from the show's seven-member jury, which included viewer votes as the possibly tie-breaking seventh pick. Lloyd said she'll now "(put) a down payment on a house for me, my mom and my brother."

Cage wanted Hornet villain to be changed

FILM Nicolas Cage says he dropped out of The Green Hornet film because of creative differences with star and screenwriter Seth Rogen and director Michel Gondry.

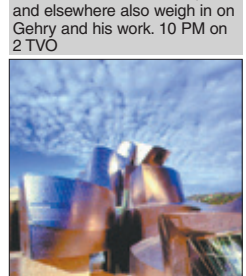
He had been in talks to play the lead villain opposite Rogen, who will portray the masked crime fighter. But Cage says he "wasn't interested in just being just a straight-up bad guy who was killing people willy-nilly." He says Rogen and Gondry "had a different take on the character" and there wasn't enough time to develop the script.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OT	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 9/17/09	265	353	2	TVO	Megastructures		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Little Dorrit		Masterworks "Sketches of Frank Gehry"		
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Samoa (N)		The Office (N)	SNL Update	90210 (HDTV) (N)		News Final
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	Infoman (SC)	Enquête (N) (SC)		3600 secondes d'extase (SC)		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		TJ Ontario
	209	342	6	CHRO	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	So You Think You Can Dance		Fringe (N)		(10:02) Private Practice		Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	The Vampire Diaries (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) The Mentalist		CTV News
	208	303	8	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Super Spellers (N)		Rise Up - Canadian Pop Music		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	SNL Update	Parks-Recreat	The Office (N)	Community (N)	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	117	713	10	TVA	La Fièvre de la danse (SC)		Dieu Merci (SC)		Jean-Michel Anctil		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	Taxi payant	Rire et délire	Fringe (SC)		Bob Gratton	South Park	Le Mur (SC)	L'Attaque à 5 (SC)	
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama été	Alboni: L'export		Villages	*Les Misérables*				Alboni
	-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge-Brown	Survivor: Samoa (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) The Mentalist		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Raymond	According-Jim	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Shift Focus
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		30 Rock	Parks-Recreat	30 Rock	Community (N)	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	218	345	18	CHCH	*Married to the Mob* ★★★ (1988, Comedy) Michelle Pfeiffer.				*Easy Money* ★★ (1983, Comedy) Rodney Dangerfield.				News at 11
	-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Grey's Anatomy "Here's to Future Days; Now or Never"				(10:02) Private Practice		News
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique				Revue	Période-quest.
	651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Bones (N)		Fringe (N)		FOX 2 News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Holiday Table	Celtic Thunder -- Take Me Home			Visions of Scotland			Charlie Rose
	205	312	104	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	The Vampire Diaries (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) The Mentalist		CTV News
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Marketplace	CBC News: Tonight (N)		CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
sports	406	417	27	net	MLB Baseball Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim at Boston Red Sox. (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	WEC WrekCage (N)		2009 World Series of Poker		2009 World Series of Poker		SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	410	403	52	SCR	Score on NFL	College Football Georgia Tech at Miami. (Live)							Score Now
	411	457	56	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	59	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV) (N)		Jacked!	Jacked!	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride
family	554	544	48	TEL	Stoked	Total Drama	Majority Rules	6TEEN (N)	Futurama	King of the Hill	*Futurama: The Beast With a Billion Backs*		
	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	551	542	65	YTV	Drake & Josh	Family Biz (N)	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	*Johnny Cash's America* (2008)		
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360 (N)
	628	584	32	SPKE	UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed		TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N)				Ult. Fighter
	521	560	34	TLC	LA Ink (HDTV)		Police Women of Broward		Police Women of Broward		LA Ink (HDTV) (N)		Police Women
	145	761	35	TV5	Hep! Taxi		Club social		Envoyé spécial			Cité guide	TV5 Le Journal
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's City Hall		The Best Years (DVS)		Bones		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	Storytellers	Camera	Joanna	*Water* ★★★ (2005, Drama) Seema Biswas, Lisa Ray, John Abraham.					Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Are We Alone?				MythBusters		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	Karaoke Star "Kitchener" (N)		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Karaoke Star
	601	562	45	SLC	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	X-Weighted "Kristi"		X-Weighted Dancer.		X-Weighted		ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Now (DVS)		Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*The Recruit* ★★ (2003, Suspense)		
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Handyman Superstar		Disaster DIY	Big Amazing	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		*Logan's Run* ★★ (1976, Science Fiction) Michael York, Jenny Agutter.				
	581	566	53	MTV	Cribs	After	MTV News	Parent Control	Fantasy Fact.	Beatdown	Nitro Circus (N)	Pranked	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	TV Made, Do It	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	522	506	55	HIS	Ice Road Truckers		Ancient Discoveries		Underworld Histories		Life After People (N)		Blow Down
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Elizabeth Hurley"		Dossiers justice (HDTV)		Réscapes de la justice (HDTV)		Un tueur si proche (HDTV)		Vidéo
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	'Allo, 'Allo!	*Gentleman's Agreement* ★★★★ (1947, Drama) Gregory Peck, John Garfield.				
	602	567	62	W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Confidential	Confidential	Divine Design	Divine Design	Love It-List It
	269	350	70	APTN	Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	Rez Rides	Moose TV	*Top Secret!* ★★ (1984, Comedy) Val Kilmer, Lucy Gutteridge.				Fish Out of
	621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (HDTV)		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	Road Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Perfection	Perfection	Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Family

critics'corner

Masterworks
Sydney Pollack has won an Oscar, two Emmys and oodles of acclaim over his long career as a director, but 2005's "Sketches of Frank Gehry" was his first attempt at a feature-length documentary. It's a successful one, owing in part to the fact that the filmmaker and the architect were friends. That gives the exchanges between Pollack and Gehry an easy, friendly vibe. Other stars of architecture, film and elsewhere also weigh in on Gehry and his work. 10 PM on 2 TVO



Saturday Night Live Weekend Update Thursday
After a pretty successful series of specials during the 2008 election season, this spinoff of the fake news segment on "Saturday Night Live" returns to a permanent (-ish, depending on the ratings) Thursday time period, with anchorman Seth Meyers and, for the first two episodes, returning co-anchor Amy Poehler. Can the writers come up with enough truly funny bits to service this half-hour plus the Saturday night "SNL" segment? Seems doubtful. 8 PM on 9 NBC

Add a little Tweet-ness

Twitter and Facebook are helping Rocco DiSpirito write his new cookbook: The media savvy chef is turning to the social networks to help decide which dishes he should include in his new book. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Urban Foodie

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222 Lyon: Big flavours in small plates

SHARI GOODMAN
OttawaUrbanFoodie@gmail.com

222 Lyon Tapas Bar
222 Lyon Street North
Ottawa
(613) 238-0222

Signature Drink:
Sangria
Signature Dish:
Spicy Mussels
Rating: ●●●●
Dinner & drinks for 2: $70

This restaurant, 222 Lyon, bears the name of its address and is a bustling cosy spot with a warm Spanish flair serving Tapas and the best red-wine Sangria in Ottawa.

Eating several small plates of finely-prepared food is my favourite way to enjoy a meal. First, we ordered the Shrimp Mona Lisa ($11), served with mushrooms, wine, cream and brandy. The shrimp was delicate and the boozy mix in the cream divine.

I was intrigued by the Pork and Fig Croquettes ($10) since a typical croquette contains mashed potatoes. These were crispy on the outside but with a soft, minced pork and sweet fig filling, making them unusual but delightful.

The Spicy Mussels ($11) were the star of the evening. The server suggested removing each mussel from its shell and leaving them in the sauce to eat as a soup. Each bite tasted rich and smooth with a chili-induced sting.

Piquing our interest for dessert was Sexy Berries. The strawberries were speckled with pepper and served with a brandy-infused cream sauce. Although it wasn't as sweet as I had hoped, the tickle from the brandy was a warm ending to an intimate meal, especially with a signature Spanish Coffee on the side. Ay, Chihuahua!

On the web

- Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/food

Spicy Mussels ($11)

SHARI GOODMAN/FOR METRO CANADA

Shrimp Mona Lisa ($11)

Global Peasant blog online

- Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.
- Visit metronews.ca/globalpeasant for a recipe for Panzanella (Tomato and Bread Salad), using heirloom tomatoes from her own garden.

In brief

CLASSES Beginner Sugar Sculpting class with Kara Cashion (sugarcubes.ca/ebookcc.htm), Friday through Sunday at Mrs. McGarrigles in Merrickville

GRAPE STOMP 12th Annual Charity Grape Stomp (prestonstreet.com/events/daily_events/2009-09-20.htm) takes place this Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 pm at Adult High School parking lot.

CRANBERRY BOG Visit the only cranberry bog in Eastern Ontario from mid-September through mid-November, but call ahead (uccranberries.com).

Dining out

MORE SMALL PLATES
Allium Restaurant (87 Holland Ave.) offers a tapas menu on Mondays.

COSY & CARAMELIZED
Black Dog Bistro (5540 Main St., Manotick) offers a private table to enjoy a quiet dinner. Their caramelized butter is worth a visit on its own.

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Swayze gets Dancing send-off
Dancing with the Stars will honour Patrick Swayze on Wednesday's live results show. The late actor appeared on the show in its early years, people.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Kristin debunks rumours

SETTING THINGS STRAIGHT Like singer John Mayer, reality TV star Kristin Cavallari says she was amused by rumours the two had hooked up. "I literally met John one time for five minutes," she told usmagazine.com yesterday. "I am single, I'll tell you that. I'm 22. Why have a boyfriend? I'm having fun."

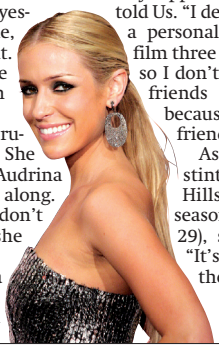
There is one rumour that's true: She and Hills co-star Audrina Patridge don't get along. "We literally just don't see each other," she told Us.

"I don't have a problem with her. If she has a problem with me, that's a whole other story."

Still, Cavallari has no regrets about becoming a reality TV star. "It's been such a great experience for me and brought me so many opportunities," she told Us. "I definitely have a personal life. I only film three days a week, so I don't put my real friends on camera because it will ruin friendships."

As for her new stint on The Hills (the fifth season starts Sept. 29), she told Us: "It's fun to play the bitch."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Good news and bad news, Jude

TRADING ONE PROBLEM FOR ANOTHER Jude Law has been cleared of allegations he assaulted a female photographer after officials in the U.K. ruled no action will be taken against him, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The star allegedly hit the photographer as he tried to get to his car after leaving a London nightclub in July. He was accused of striking Harsha Gopal on the head and slapping her face as she tried to take his picture, but he denied the accusations. His lawyer said the claims were "nonsense."

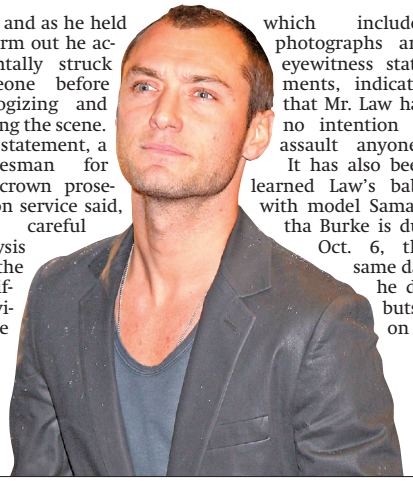
Law was adamant camera flashes had blinded him, and as he held his arm out he accidentally struck someone before apologizing and leaving the scene. In a statement, a spokesman for the crown prosecution service said, "A careful analysis of the specific evidence in this case, which included photographs and eyewitness statements, indicates that Mr. Law had no intention to assault anyone."

It has also been learned Law's baby with model Samantha Burke is due Oct. 6, the same day he debuts on Broadway in Hamlet.

Burke is reportedly looking to upstage the actor, as she's reportedly been shopping around an exclusive interview about their relationship and pictures of newborn, to be named Sophia.

"Samantha is getting offers ranging up to $200,000 (US)," a source told Page Six. "While Jude has promised to provide for Sophia, Samantha doesn't feel like his behaviour towards her was entirely chivalrous."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celebrity tweets

Serena Williams attempts to make amends for her U.S. Open outburst, Tila Tequila uses her Twitter followers as an alarm clock, and Ben Stiller can't quite figure out how to use Twitter.

- @serenajwilliams I want to sincerely apologize FIRST to the lineswoman, Kim Clijsters, USTA & mostly tennis fans everywhere. Thank you all for your support
- @officialTila Ok don't forget. 9am wake up call please! Just tweet me...I'll hear it! LOL...nite nite! *drinks chocolate milk* xoxox
- @RedHourBen I keep Direct Messaging the world. Let's all have a meeting. Someday I will figure this out.

METRO WORLD NEWS

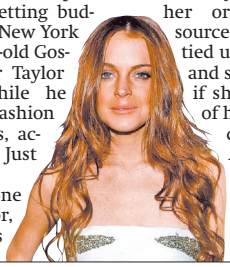
LiLo corrupts the young?

THINK OF THE KIDS! Lindsay Lohan seems to be pulling double duty when it comes to corrupting the young. The actress was spotted this week getting buddy-buddy in New York with 16-year-old Gossip Girl star Taylor Momsen while he hit various Fashion Week events, according to Just Jared.

Only one week prior, Lohan was letting 15-year-old sister Ali Lohan tag along to bars and clubs around L.A., Life & Style magazine alleges.

"Lindsay didn't coddle her or anything," a source said. "They partied until after 1 a.m., and she treated Ali as if she were just one of her friends at the club with her. And Ali was excited to be there."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Sean rebounds with model

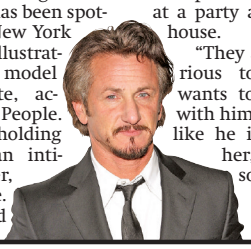
SECOND CHANCE AT LOVE His divorce from Robin Wright Penn may not be finalized, but Sean Penn already appears to be moving on.

The actor has been spotted around New York with Sports Illustrated swimsuit model Jessica White, according to People. "They were holding hands" at an intimate dinner, said a source. "They seemed really into each other. She was laying on him. She was laying on his shoulder. He seemed really into her."

The pair reportedly met at a party at Kid Rock's house.

"They are pretty serious together. She wants to get serious with him and it seems like he is really into her, too," the source added.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Church opposes Elton's plan

ANOTHER ROADBLOCK At least one organization is happy that Ukrainian law prohibits singer Elton John and his partner, David Furnish, from adopting a 14-month-old boy they met at an orphanage recently.

"Thank God it's impossible under Ukrainian law for Elton John to adopt a child," Ukraine Orthodox Church spokesman Father Georgy Gulyaev said, according to the Daily Mail. "The church will never agree that people who have created same-sex marriage could also dare to adopt children. This applies to all, including Elton John. He is a sinner."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Megan the murderer?

WATCH OUT FOR THIS ONE Megan Fox is the first to admit she's dangerous — and that boyfriend Brian Austin Green might want to worry about his safety.

"My temper is ridiculously bad," Fox confessed to Rolling Stone magazine. "I've had to say to Brian, 'You have to go and stop talking to me, because I'm going to kill you. I'm going to stab you with something, please leave.'"

And it's because of that temper that Fox isn't armed, she says. "I'd never own a gun for that reason ... I wouldn't shoot to kill. But I would shoot him in the leg, for sure."

METRO WORLD NEWS

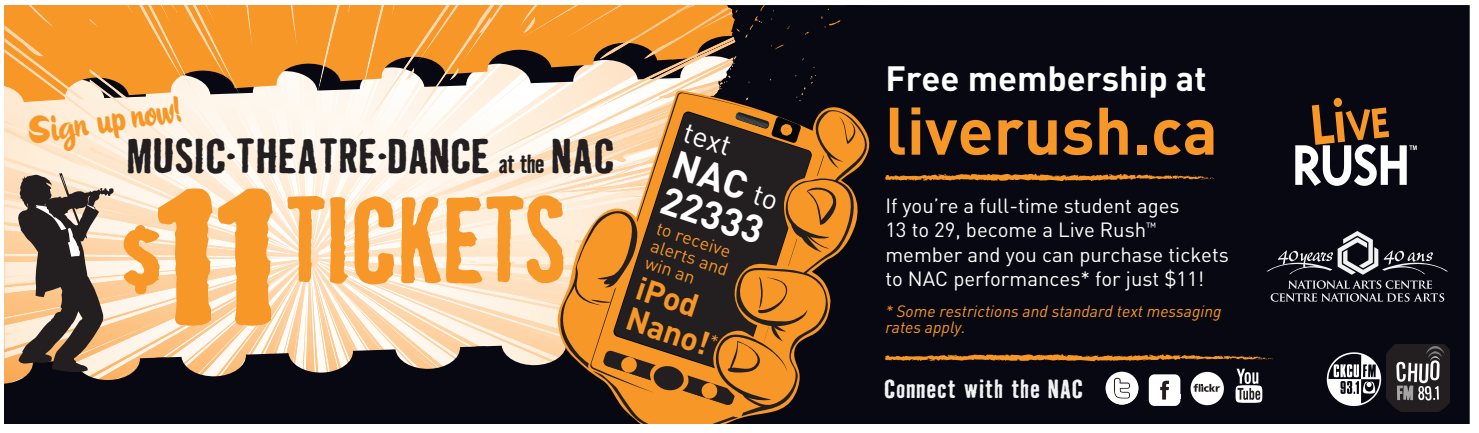
Missing: Jessica's dog last seen in coyote's jaws

DOGGONE SHAME Jessica Simpson is holding out hope that her beloved dog, Daisy, is still OK despite being carried off by a wild animal. "My heart is broken because a coyote took my precious Daisy right in front of our eyes," Simpson tweeted. "We are searching. Hoping. Please help."

Simpson uploaded a missing poster for the pooch, which she received as a gift from then-husband Nick Lachey in 2004.

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES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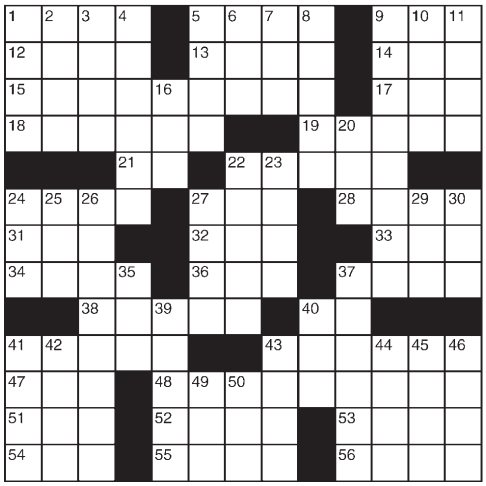


ACROSS

1 Emulated Michael Phelps
5 Goya's "Duchess of —"
9 URL bit
12 Incite
13 Fly high
14 Sapporo sash
15 26-Down attendee
17 Tear
18 "The Usual Suspects" actor
19 Identifies
21 Fire
22 Memorable mission
24 Feedbag fill
27 Carte lead-in
28 Former larva
31 "A pox upon thee!"
32 Beleaguered spacecraft
33 Turf
34 Envelope feature
36 "Bleah!"
37 "F' heaven's sake!"
38 Sign of life
40 "— what?"
41 Form
43 Opening remark?
47 The girl
48 26-Down attendee
51 Illustrations
52 Reed instrument
53 Protracted
54 Possibly will
55 Require
56 Ostriches' kin

DOWN

1 Addition problems
2 Enclose
3 City of India
4 Groups' havens
5 Wan
6 Mauna —
7 Tavern
8 Action venue
9 26-Down attendee
10 Theater trophy
11 Gratuities
16 Whammy
20 Pump up the volume
22 26-Down attendee
23 Caprice
24 Askew
25 Have a bug
26 Wonderland event
27 Writer Kingsley
29 "The Raven" man
30 Woodworking tool
35 Young dog
37 Nudge
39 Dealership dud
40 Vast expanse
41 Counterfeit
42 Wife of Zeus
43 Molt
44 Teensy bit
45 Waiter's handout
46 Work measures
49 Honest politician
50 Anonymous John

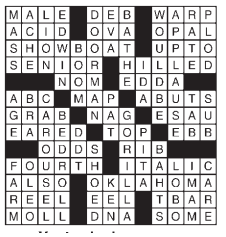
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			2			4		
7	5						9	
		8			1		2	
	2	7	1	4			6	
3								4
	1			5	9	3	7	
	9		5			2		
	8						4	7
		1			6			

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



1	6	7	4	5	3	9	8	2
3	2	8	9	6	7	4	1	5
4	5	9	2	1	8	7	3	6
8	9	2	5	3	6	1	4	7
7	4	5	8	2	1	6	9	3
6	1	3	7	9	4	5	2	8
9	7	4	3	8	5	2	6	1
2	8	1	6	7	9	3	5	4
5	3	6	1	4	2	8	7	9

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

STEPHEN MACKLOCK

Chili Chicken, Corn & Pasta

Submitted by Jackie Hayward, Fort St. John, B.C.

INGREDIENTS:

6 oz.pkg of Angel hair pasta
3 fresh ears of sweet corn
1/4 cup of cooking oil
4 small skinless boneless chicken breasts,
1-1/2 tsp. chili powder
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
2 medium tomatoes, sliced
3 Tbsp. lemon juice
Snipped fresh parsley if desire

METHOD:

1. Cook pasta and corn ears in salted boiling water about 8 minutes or until tender. Drain and rinse with cold water.
2. Mix 1-teaspoon chili powder, salt and pepper in a bowl and then sprinkle the mix over each chicken breast.
3. In a large skillet cook chicken in 1-tablespoon hot oil over medium heat for 8 to 10 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink, turning once.
4. While chicken is cooking, cut the sweet corn kernels from the cobs.
5. Combine the remaining oil and chili powder along with the lemon juice in a jar.
6. Mix the chicken, corn, tomatoes and pasta and serve onto 4 plates.
7. Drizzle with the prepared dressing and sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper.
8. Serve with a sprig of parsley.

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 10MINUTES

20 minute SUPPER CLUB

20MinuteSupperClub.com helps you get dinner ready in a snap. Visit 20minutesupperclub.com/metro and be entered to win a $50 President's Choice gift certificate! Weekly winners until the end of October.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Walk away from people who are always talking you down. It does not matter that you feel you owe them in some way, it matters only that you liberate yourself.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Don't try to hide your feelings because you won't succeed. Instead, speak up and let others know exactly what you think and why.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Work and health issues need to be dealt with today. Think seriously about how you are using your time and your energy.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
There will be some major changes in your everyday environment over the next few weeks and no matter how much you prepare yourself.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Whatever changes you are thinking of making you are advised to wait until the Sun changes signs on the 22nd.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You may be tempted to invest in something you don't know much about but when you start thinking like that you are likely to make a costly mistake.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You will send out very strong signals today and those signals will attract people who, to put it mildly, are out of the ordinary.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
This is a good time for you and it will get even better over the next few weeks, so save some energy for what is to come.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Make an effort to understand the thought processes of people whose ideas and opinions you don't agree with.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Do you follow a path that has been laid out for you by others? Or do you follow a path that you personally believe in? That is what you need to decide.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The Sun's change of signs on the 22nd will encourage you to speak up about things you believe in and stir up the kind debate that is needed.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
There are some major changes on your cosmic horizon, and each and every one of them will work in ways that make your life rich and rewarding.

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TICO

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. "Casablanca" pianist's Scottish caps (1)
2. Annoy or agitate actor Harrison (1)
3. Stir up or wake up dairy cattle (1)
4. Daily news publication molder (2)
5. MGM star Clark's tales like Aesop's (2)
6. Cleverly sarcastic essay or script (2)
7. Vocalist's witty retorts (2)

ANSWERS
1. SAMS TAMS 2. VEX REX 3. ROUSE COWS 4. PAPER SHAPER 5. GABLES FABLES 6. BITING WRITING 7. SINGERS ZINGERS

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9-17-09

This day in history

SEPT. 17, 1630: The city of Boston, Massachusetts is founded.
SEPT. 17, 1787: The United States Constitution is signed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
SEPT. 17, 1862: American Civil War: George B. McClellan halts the northward drive of Robert E. Lee's Confederate army in the single-day Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day in American history.
SEPT. 17, 1916: World War I: Manfred von Richthofen ("The Red Baron"), a flying ace of the German Luftstreitkräfte, wins his first aerial combat near Cambrai, France.
SEPT. 17, 1949: The Canadian steamship SS Noronic burns in Toronto Harbor with the loss of over 118 lives.

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